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Association of Bay Area Governments

Regional Planning

Threat or
Opportunity
to
Minority
Communities.

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ABOUT PROBE

"If there is no struggle there is no progress...
This struggle may be a moral one; or it may be
a physical one; or it may be both moral and
physical; but it must be a struggle"

Frederick Douglass, 1857

PROBE Community Development Center was started in 1966 by a handful of people from the Redwood City community. Since then, it has brought many important changes to Redwood City which is located in San Mateo County. It has helped create many necessary programs, including the new Fair Oaks Community Center. At the same time, PROBE has grown significantly and now stands as proof of what the people of a community can do to help themselves. PROBE's success is the best example of what people can do with limited resources. But much more remains to be done. The progress that is sought is a better community. The struggle that is undertaken is the solution to many problems. It is everyone's struggle.

ABOUT ABAG

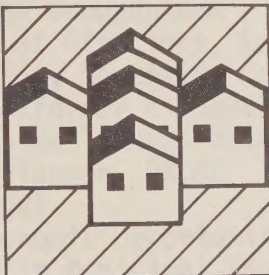
The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) is owned and operated by the local governments of the San Francisco Bay Area. It was established in 1961 to meet regional problems through the cooperative action of its member cities and counties. At present 87 of the 93 cities and 7 of 9 counties in the Bay Area are members. Twenty-five special districts, regional agencies and other government agencies are non-voting cooperating members. ABAG serves an area of about 7 thousand square miles and nearly 5 million citizens.

ABAG is the areawide comprehensive planning agency for the Bay Area. Its approved Regional Plan provides a policy guide for planning of the region's: air and water quality, airport systems, community development, comprehensive health services, employment, growth management, housing, human services, natural resources, seaports, seismic safety, solid waste management, and transportation.

ABAG invites citizens to become involved in regional planning. In 1974 the Citizen Alliance Program was established. This program encourages citizens to define problems and develop programs or projects that address issues of concern to them. Projects are selected and financial support allocated by the Citizen Services Subcommittee. Citizen Alliance projects cover many varied concerns such as the PROBE Conference--The Region vs Neighborhoods: Threat or Opportunity--and the publication of this report; a seminar on housing needs and ABAG's regional housing plan; an expedition into the foothills to learn about clean water creeks; a seminar on the quality of water in the South Bay sponsored by the Peninsula Conservation Center; and conference/workshops on recycling solid waste.

Regional Planning

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Conference Cosponsors

ABAG/Citizens Alliance Program
ABAG Minorities in Planning and Management Internship Program
East Palo Alto Information and Referral Center
League of Women Voters of the Bay Area
Mid-Peninsula Urban Coalition
MTC Minority Citizens Advisory Committee
PROBE Community Development Center
Richmond Southside Community Center
San Francisco Black Political Caucus
Target Education and Welfare Council
San Jose State University, Urban and Regional Planning Department


Conference Planning Committee

David Aldape, Community Liaison Officer, MTC
Cecelia Salazar Arroyo, Regional Planner, ABAG
Clifford Boxley, Conference Convenor, PROBE
Sara Conners, Bay Area League of Women Voters
Christine Copney, Secretary, PROBE
Bob Covington, Director, San Francisco Pre-Trial Diversion Project
Lester Dixon, Director, URIMA Sangguninan
Maria Estrada, County Board of Directors, La Familia Agency of Marin
Betty Fong, Associate Director, Southside Community Center
Curtis Henry, Consultant, Jefferson & Associates
Jorge Jimenez, Confederacion de la Raza Unida
Audon Maldonado, Community Planner, PROBE
Lilliam MacWilliams, Paralegal
Esther Rascon, San Mateo Economic Opportunity Commission
Gordon Shriver, East Palo Alto Municipal Council
Koki Tanaka, San Jose State University Urban and Regional Planning
Dr. E. C. Welbon, Community Skill Center
Tala de Wynter, Centro de Servicios de Napa County

Association of Bay Area Governments

Cecelia Salazar Arroyo, Conference Report Coordinator
Kay Janz, Correspondence Center Typist
Cheryl Polk, Correspondence Center Typist
Miyeko Rautenberg, Editor
Audrey Will, Correspondence Center Typist
Pat Wong-Yung, Graphics Designer
Yvonne Young, Supervisor of Correspondence Center

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GENERAL BACKGROUND

In the San Francisco Bay Region there are nearly five million people--a little over one-fourth of the population is non-white. According to the 1970 Census the Region's non-whites were:

o Hispanic	13.0%
o Black	8.0%
o Asian American	3.2%
o Filipino	1.2%
o American Indian	0.4%
o All Others	0.9%

To assess the impact of regional planning on minority communities a conference was held in Oakland on November 13 and 20, 1976 entitled "The Region vs Neighborhoods--Threat or Opportunity?" For the first time in the Bay Area, a conference to discuss non-white planning issues was created, planned and implemented by community organizations. The idea for the conference was developed by Cliff Boxley, Director of PROBE Community Development Center in Redwood City.

Approximately two hundred individuals representing public agencies, private industry and community organizations attended the conference. Some of the questions discussed were:

1. Do present transportation systems provide adequate service to non-whites?
2. Should a minority perspective be developed in regional plans being drafted for the Bay Area?
3. What is the non-white role of regional planners and regional policy makers?
4. Can a regional housing policy be enforced to meet non-white needs?

Assemblyman John Knox was the keynote speaker. Vicente Gonzales of La Confederacion de la Raza Unida presented a position paper. Extensive panel discussions were held concerning: transportation, environment, housing, health, criminal justice, minorities/regional policy makers, the United Way and ABAG's A-95 Review Process. Transportation proved to be the most volatile and frustrating issue for non-whites.

The conference findings highlight the glaring deficiencies of non-white participation in regional planning bodies, as elected officials and as staff members. Minority planning problems and concerns are not seriously addressed by regional planning agencies.

Many recommendations were developed and problem areas/issues were identified. In order to implement recommendations developed at the conference, follow-up will occur in four phases:

- o publication of a conference report

- o presentation of conference recommendations to appropriate local, county, regional, state and federal agencies
- o formation of subcommittees in the areas of Citizen Participation, Legislation, Education, Employment and Economic Development, Representation and Community Planning
- o grant development

The publication of this report Regional Planning--Threat or Opportunity completes the first phase of conference follow-up. The report is divided into two major sections, Action Plan and Conference Summary.

Action Plan

Date	Time	Activity

INTRODUCTION

Regional government was established in the San Francisco Bay Region as far back as the 1920's when the East Bay Regional Park District and East Bay Municipal Utility District were established. The "Region vs Neighborhoods" conference's main goal was to assess the impact of regional government on the Bay Area's non-white communities. The conference documented:

- o how regional government is viewed by minorities in the Region
- o what are the minority needs in the Region
- o what is presently being done to meet those needs
- o what are the unmet needs

Views of Regional Government by Minorities

1. Public education programs need to be developed and materials on what regional government is about and how it affects minority communities need to be disseminated
2. Regionalism is generally viewed with skepticism since local problems are still unsolved (housing, transportation, employment, etc.)
3. Minorities also view regional government as a threat as it does not provide opportunities for minorities to become involved at the policy and staff level and does not encourage minority studies
4. Minorities believe that regional government is controlled by white suburban governments.

Needs of the Minority Community

1. Environmental Management
2. Transportation
3. Health
4. Alternatives to the present criminal justice system.
5. Housing
6. Employment
7. Regional government public education programs
8. Grants for minorities in the field of planning and changes in graduate schools' admission policies

How is Regional Government Meeting Minority Needs

A major example is MTC's Minority Citizens Advisory Committee. Only a handful of non-white elected officials currently participate on policy-making boards such as the ABAG Executive Board, Bay Area Rapid Transit District, Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission.

Conference follow-up has resulted in an ACTION PLAN. Follow-up will occur in four phases:

- o publication of a conference report
- o presentation of conference recommendations to appropriate local, county, regional, state and federal agencies
- o formation of subcommittees in the areas of Citizen Participation, Legislation, Education, Employment and Economic Development, Representation and Community Planning
- o grant development

ACTION PLAN

One of the most exciting developments of the "Region vs Neighborhoods" conference is that an ACTION PLAN resulted from the conference follow-up. Unlike most conferences where recommendations are developed and then forgotten, the Action Plan will promote the following:

- o publication of a conference report
- o presentation of conference recommendations to appropriate local, county, regional, state and federal agencies
- o formation of subcommittees in the areas of Citizen Participation, Legislation, Education, Employment and Economic Development, Representation and Community Planning
- o grant development

It was the commitment of the Conference Planning Committee that the conference report would serve as an educational document as well as documentation of minority needs and recommendations on action to regional agencies.

Conference Report

The first phase of the ACTION PLAN is completed with the publication of Regional Planning--Threat or Opportunity.

Presentation of Conference Results

Regional Planning--Threat or Opportunity will be distributed to federal, state, regional and local public officials for information and action. The report will also be sent to community leaders, community organizations and educational institutions in the Bay Area. All organizations attending the conference listed on page 13 will be sent a copy of the report.

Formation of Subcommittees

In order for the next phase to occur, an ongoing organizational structure is being developed. Such community regional committees will facilitate cooperative action on specific areas of minority concern.

- o Citizen Participation: will investigate mechanisms for citizen participation and the legal requirements mandating such participation
- o Legislation: will lobby for a regional planning bill and promote direct election of at least half of the policy board
- o Education: will develop a creative public education program geared to the minority community's understanding of regional planning. Will also lobby graduate planning schools regarding changes in admission policies.
- o Employment and Economic Development: will monitor environmental management programs so that employment opportunities will not be eliminated.

- o Representation: will lobby for more participation by minority elected officials on regional policy boards
- o Community Planning: will promote minority and low-income studies

Little information exists concerning the attitudes and needs of ethnic and racial minorities in the Region. From a minority point of view there are two perspectives regarding regional government--one concerned with power and the other concerned with service. Opponents of regional government believe that it dilutes the power of minorities.

The ACTION PLAN also promotes:

- o the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- o regional government criteria which meets minority concerns
- o citizen participation criteria which meets minority concerns

Civil Rights Act

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 provides that no person shall be excluded on the grounds of race, color, or national origin from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

Regional Government Criteria*

Regional government, from a minority perspective, should meet the following criteria:

1. Distributive equity in terms of finances, services, and the ability to influence policy through redistribution of incomes, and the decision-making authority of the governing unit itself.
2. Economy/efficiency through the creation of units of government that deliver effectively such services as sanitation, police and fire protection, recreation as well as health and welfare services.
3. Citizen participation and input in regional decision-making. Alienation, e.g. a sense of "purposeful" withdrawal from the political process because of its organizational biases, must be avoided. Minorities, especially poor minorities, tend to have social characteristics which suggest minimal participation in the political process at all levels. . . .they should be organized into the areas of political decision-making and conflict as much as possible.
4. Legitimacy. In order for the preceding values to be fully maximized in a system of regional governance the system must be perceived as

*Criteria was taken from Nand Engie Hart-Nibbrig's Ph.D. dissertation, The Attitudes of Black Political Leaders toward Regional Governance in the San Francisco Bay Area: A Case Study of Black Activists in Berkeley, California December, 1974.

as legitimate. That is, a system of governance must engender and maintain the belief that the existing political institutions are the most appropriate ones for the society. This means that before minorities view a governmental structure as legitimate they must find a way to establish consonance between system values and thier social need values. Not only is there potential conflict between equity and efficiency, or between freedom and equality, but there is a deeper potential for social conflict due to the depth of difference between the social base of poor minorities and the majority white population. . .

Mr. Hart-Nibbrig's dissertation examined the regional attitudes and regional roles of black political leaders in Berkeley and the San Francisco Bay Area. Selected tables are included to provide a general overview of some of the findings:

BLACK ELECTED OFFICIALS' VIEWS TOWARD REGIONAL COUNCILS

Opinion of Regional Councils	All Respondents		County		City	
	Total (A)	% of A	Total	% of A	Total	% of A
Clear threat	30	13	4	11	26	13
May be threat	57	24	7	19	50	25
Irrelevant	12	5	2	5	10	5
May help somewhat	90	38	16	43	74	37
Will help	48	20	8	22	40	20
Total	237	100	37	100	200	100

Source: Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, Substate Regionalism and the Federal System, Vol. I (1973), Table IV-16.

BLACK SKEPTICISM OF REGIONAL GOVERNMENT: SURVEY OF BLACK PUBLIC OFFICIALS
AND POLITICAL LEADERS IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA--1971 and 1973

1971: N = 25

1973: N = 56

Statement	Percentages					
	1971			1973		
	Agree	Disagree	Can't Say	Agree	Disagree	Can't Say
1. Urban Blacks will be suspicious of regional government because of the fear of increased influence of suburban Whites.	88	12		90.6	5.7	3.8
2. A regional government can increase the influence of Blacks in the public school system.	32	64	4	33.9	50.9	15.1
3. Regional government would not destroy the influence of Blacks in urban centers.	36	60	4	39.6	52.8	7.5
4. Regional government is more likely than local government to reallocate resources to social priorities.	40	56	4	26.4	58.5	15.1

PROPER LOCATION OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR CERTAIN FUNCTIONS IN OPINION OF 25 BLACK PUBLIC OFFICIALS
SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA, 1971

	City Community Neighbor	County	Regional	Federal	State
1. Airport planning and facilities	x		x	x	
2. Air pollution			*	x	
3. Bay fill			*		x
4. Crime and juvenile delinquency	*		x		
5. Equal opportunity in employment	x			x	
6. General land use planning and control	x		*		x
7. Low income housing			x	x	
8. Major recreational facilities			*		
9. Mass transportation			*	x	
10. Open housing in suburbs			x	x	
11. Open space	x		x		x
12. Police	*				
13. Public education	*				
14. Public health programs and facilities	x	x	x		
15. Public housing	x	x	x		x
16. Public welfare				x	
17. Social welfare planning		x	x	x	
18. Solid waste disposal			*		
19. Urban redevelopment	x		x	x	
20. Water pollution	x		x	x	

* Majority of respondents

x 20.0 to 49.9 per cent of respondents

OPINION OF BLACK ELECTED OFFICIALS CONCERNING WHY
THEIR JURISDICTIONS JOINED A REGIONAL COUNCIL

Opinion	Counties		Cities	
	No. Re- porting	Weighted Mean*	No. Re- porting	Weighted Mean*
1. Regional council approach necessary to obtain state funds.	10	1.7	37	2.0
2. Regional council approach necessary to obtain federal funds.	17	2.0	71	1.7
3. Forum needed for discussion of region's problems.	5	2.0	42	2.3
4. Regional council could contribute significantly to solution of area-wide problems.	14	1.9	58	1.9
5. Regional council could contribute significantly to solution of local problems.	6	2.3	24	2.5
6. Regional council would improve cooperation between central cities and suburbs.	6	2.3	17	2.4
7. Regional council approach one means to strengthen political power of suburban areas surrounding increasingly black central cities.	0	...	10	2.4
8. Regional council a mechanism for diluting emerging black political power and influence, especially in areas of federal and state grants.	3	1.0	16	2.6
9. Other reasons.	0	...	8	1.8

* Respondents were asked to evaluate the three most important reasons in their opinion why their jurisdictions joined a regional council, on a scale of 1 (high) to 3 (low).

Source: Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, Substate Regionalism and the Federal System, Vol. I (1973), Table IV-11.

BLACK ELECTED OFFICIALS' EVALUATION OF
EFFECTIVENESS OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

Area	Counties		Cities	
	No. Re- porting	Weighted Mean*	No. Re- porting	Weighted Mean*
1. Law enforcement and criminal justice	23	3.0	98	3.0
2. Health problems	24	3.0	78	3.1
3. Air pollution	19	3.6	64	3.4
4. Water pollution	21	3.3	68	3.0
5. Manpower	19	3.6	55	3.7
6. Conservation	16	3.6	57	3.5
7. Economic development	19	3.0	73	3.4
8. Transportation	16	3.9	70	3.2
9. Housing	16	3.7	72	3.7
10. Education	11	3.6	52	4.0
11. Open space	15	3.5	59	3.5
12. Water and sewer systems	19	2.5	92	2.7
13. Recreation	17	3.1	64	3.3
14. Juvenile delinquency	14	3.4	63	3.7
15. Land use and physical planning	19	2.8	87	3.0
16. Highway safety	16	2.8	60	3.3

* Respondents were asked to evaluate the effectiveness of regional council programs on a scale of 1 (very effective) to 5 (very ineffective).

Source: Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, Substate Regionalism and the Federal System, Vol. I (1973), Table IV-12.

Citizen Participation Criteria*

Any planning agency seeking effective citizen participation should be concerned with:

1. adequate representation of all segments of the community within the citizens' organizational structure;
2. carefully conceived election and/or appointment procedures for administrative and leadership positions, committees and subcommittees;
3. adequate funding to allow for publicity of citizens' activities through newsletters, radio and television coverage and other vehicles;
4. delivery of such technical assistance and planning expertise as necessary to assist citizens evaluating planning issues and identifying alternatives to proposed plans;
5. sustained public interest and concern to assure continuity in quantity and level of membership input;
6. existence of general consensus within the community and the citizens' body on the value of genuine citizen participation and representation;
7. agreement on the part of all parties concerned that safeguards contained in the By-Laws or other legal instruments be neither subverted nor circumvented by one segment for its own benefit.

Implementation of the ACTION PLAN will occur during 1977-1978. It is the hope of the Conference Planning Committee that there will be a better understanding of regional planning from a minority point of view. Also if the recommendations resulting from the conference are implemented, regional planning will no longer be a threat to minority communities.

*Criteria taken from HUD's Technical Guide on Equal Opportunity in Planning, June 1976.

ORGANIZATIONS ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE

1. SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY, URBAN & REGIONAL PLANNING DEPARTMENT
2. MARIN LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
3. THE SAN FRANCISCO JOURNAL
4. ASIAN, INC.
5. STANFORD UNIVERSITY, POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
6. BAY AREA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
7. ALL PEOPLES' COALITION
8. ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (EOC)--SAN FRANCISCO
9. EOC YOUTH PROGRAM
10. BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
11. HAYWARD LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
12. ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS
13. SAN FRANCISCO BLACK POLITICAL CAUCUS
14. SAN FRANCISCO COMMUNITY CONGRESS
15. SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
16. UCLA, DEPARTMENT OF URBAN PLANNING
17. NEIGHBORHOOD FOUNDATION
18. UNITED WAY OF THE BAY AREA
19. THE URBAN INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES
20. MOORISH ZIONIST TEMPLE GAMALIEL'S "FRUITVALE-FOOTHILL NEIGHBORS"
21. ST. KIRBY'S HOLY WORD OF GOD CHURCH OF UNIVERSAL LIFE
22. OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CITY OF OAKLAND
23. VOLUNTEER BUREAU OF OAKLAND
24. SAN FRANCISCO LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
25. UNITED PHILIPINOS FOR EQUAL EMPLOYMENT
26. SAN FRANCISCO CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL
27. RELEASE ON OWN RECOGNIZANCE--SAN MATEO COUNTY
28. ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION--SAN MATEO COUNTY
29. FIDELITY FELIX ENTERPRISES, INC.
30. YOUTH SERVICES VOCATIONAL CENTER
31. LUNG ASSOCIATION--BURLINGAME
32. SENIOR OUTREACH PROGRAM
33. CONTRA COSTA COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM
34. INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNMENTAL STUDIES--UC BERKELEY
35. METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
36. CHINESE FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION
37. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY
38. JEFFERSON ASSOCIATES
39. SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER
40. CONFEDERACION DE LA RAZA UNIDA--SANTA CLARA COUNTY
41. SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT
42. SAN FRANCISCO CITY PLANNING
43. OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL
44. HEALTH SYSTEM AGENCY--SANTA CLARA COUNTY
45. OAKLAND LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
46. BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL

47. CONFEDERACION DE LA RAZA UNIDA--ALAMEDA COUNTY
48. OAKLAND AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
49. GOLDEN SPEAR CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
50. BLACK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
51. CITY OF REDWOOD CITY
52. PROBE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER
53. EDELIN ASSOCIATION
54. ELMHURST COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP
55. C.A.C.P. SENIORS
56. ASIAN LEGISLATIVE STAFF CAUCUS
57. RAINBOW SIGN
58. ERNST & ERNST
59. UNITED MEN OF ACTION
60. ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN
61. CITY OF RICHMOND
62. VOLUNTEER BUREAU OF SAN MATEO COUNTY
63. FULLER OHIER CORPORATION
64. SAN PABLO PARCHESTER
65. CENTRO DE SERVICIOS--NAPA COUNTY
66. FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF CONTRA COSTA
67. SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO CHILDREN'S CENTER
68. MINORITY CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MTC)
69. RUTHERFORD INFORMATION CENTER
70. EASTER SEALS
71. NATIONAL HEALTH AGENCIES
72. BAY AREA ASSOCIATION OF BLACK SOCIAL WORKERS
73. TIBURCIO VASQUEZ MEDICAL CLINIC, UNION CITY
74. DECOTO MURALISTS
75. TARGET EDUCATION & WELFARE COUNCIL, INC.--REDWOOD CITY
76. MISSION COALITION--SAN FRANCISCO

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:55 p.m. on October 14, 1976, by Chairman Tony Gonzales. The meeting was held at the Basement Conference Room, Hall of Justice and Records, 401 Marshall Street, Redwood City, California.

Regional planning affects the quality of life in the Bay Area's minority communities. The way in which human service delivery systems are developed at a regional level may not be sensitive to local community needs. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) will be holding a Regional Conference, November 13 and 20, 1976, at the Oakland Auditorium. In order to have the local communities in the nine bay area county region (San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano, Napa, Sonoma and Marin) impact this conference, public hearings have been established to solicit community input. The testimony will be part of an Action Plan to be developed by ABAG.

Regional Planning can be defined as local jurisdictions relinquishing their planning to a regional body to do comprehensive planning for multiple jurisdictions. This public hearing has been planned for the development of strategies, for maximizing the impact of minority communities on regional decision-making.

The three major issues to be discussed are:

1. Lack of non-white planners in regional planning agencies
2. Health Planning
3. Environmental Management

Decisions made for the poor must have input from the poor.

Mr. John Bland, County Manpower Planning, stated that he is concerned with the lack of minority planners in ABAG staff. He felt that ABAG should have knowledgeable people on staff and that they include or recruit minority staff. The decision-making level should also include minorities, it is not enough just to have a minority on staff.

Mr. Benjamin Aikons, 2526 Emmet Way, East Palo Alto, stated that he would like more information on how planning is done. Who initiates these policies? To whom are issues addressed?

Mrs. Dolores Randall explained that ABAG makes the decisions that affect the lives of the minority people.

Mr. Clifford Boxley, Director of PROBE, stated that this conference is co-sponsored by PROBE on a grant received from ABAG. The ABAG Executive Board is made up of elected officials from the seven counties and almost all the cities throughout the Bay Area.

Mr. Aikons wanted information on how an ABAG representative is picked and also how does the information about ABAG get disseminated throughout the various communities?

Mrs. Alice Gonzales, Director, Daly City Community Service Center, responded as follows:

ABAG is an organization made up of officials from the nine counties. Memberships are assessed by county population and/or city population and dues are paid to ABAG. There are also public members who are selected by the Executive Board to serve on the various task forces. On one particular task force (of which I am a member), the Human Services Division Chief is a Black woman, Bessanderson McNeil. The Capacity Building Task Force is in charge of many areas.

ABAG became an association because local governments needed a staff to serve them and bring the latest information on what is happening within our state and federal government.

Question was raised as to who initiated the public hearing. Chairman Gonzales responded that Commissioner Rascon and Mr. Clifford Boxley brought the concerns to the Commission that EOC initiate the public hearings from here on. The hearing is open to the public and anyone with concerns may speak up at any time.

Commissioner Randall asked: What kind of decisions are being made by ABAG for minority people in the community and how do those decisions impact poor people? Mrs. Gonzales stated that the Capacity Building Task Force felt that they were not there to make decisions; and that the staff and planners of ABAG should only put together data for counties and cities to set up a social service component for city/county general plans.

Mrs. Ida Berk, Director, East Palo Alto Information Center, stated that Black people only represent 5% of suburban areas nationwide. In the West, in certain areas, there are 12 - 13% Spanish-Surname/Speaking representation. There is no regional access for minority people to voice their concerns. The minorities must make themselves known to these regional agencies, or the agencies must make an extraordinary effort to identify those minority people.

Health. Mrs. Berk's concerns are related to Health. The designation of medically uninsured population vs medically uninsured areas. The law sets up the agencies. She would like to know if the law serves the population or the areas.

Transportation. There are no express routes for ethnic communities' journey to work. There are no fast transportation services to Oakland or Richmond from San Mateo County.

Recreation. What will be the effect in usable land and access to regional parks formed in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties? What kind of access will working people have to them? What kind of public transportation links will there be on the weekends for these people?

The Health Systems Agency (HSA) is a one-way information flow from one super agency to the people. How will you get minority representation when most of the representatives are not representative of minority groups? How will the new agency affect the neighborhood health centers? The formula, as Mrs. Berk explained, is based on how many physicians reside, not practice, in the area to be served.

The fight is to the top! Get a plan for minority people into the decision-making bodies. One way is to go to the State Legislature to make sure that this type of representation is involved in the planning of regional bodies.

Mr. Jessie Poindexter, Commission on Aging, AAA: "There is not enough interest shown in public hearings. Mrs. Rascon stated that the inputs from this hearing will be given to the Conference in November. At least this is a good start."

Mr. Poindexter suggested that in order to get more input from the public, the hearings should also be held at a senior center.

Commissioner Gillis also stated that people must be notified of these hearings. There were notices sent out, but the people did not show.

M/S/P to close the public hearing. Gillis/Trujillo. The public hearing was closed at 8:41 p.m.

Commissioner Gillis expressed concern that in the future, that people get a chance to get support, make it known to the people in the community that a public hearing is being held.

M/S/P that a summary of concerns that were presented at the Public Hearing of October 14, 1976 be provided to the Conference on November 13 - 20, 1976 in Oakland. Randall/Guevara.

M/S/P that Commission and staff of the San Mateo County Economic Opportunity Commission be involved in the Conference on November 13 - 20, 1976. Randall/Gillis.

Conference Summary



INTRODUCTION

An unprecedented regional conference was held at the Oakland Municipal Auditorium on Saturday, November 13, 1976 and November 20, 1976. The conference, entitled "The Region vs Neighborhoods: Threat or Opportunity?", was a two-day look at the impact of regional planning on the Bay Area's non-white communities. This section of the report summarizes the conference proceedings:

o Conference Highlights

Keynote Speech by Assemblyman John Knox
Testimony by Vicente Gonzales, La Confederacion de la Raza Unida
Addresses of Speakers

o Panel Discussion Summaries

Transportation
Environment
Housing
Health
Criminal Justice
Minorities/Regional Policy Makers
Minorities/Regional Planners
United Way
A-95 Review

In order to understand how the conference emerged, it is first necessary to understand regional planning in the San Francisco Bay Area.* Regionalism, in the San Francisco Bay Area, began in the 1920's. Two single-purpose multi-county districts were established:

The Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District--to build and operate the toll bridge between San Francisco and Marin counties (1923), and later to provide balanced transportation in the Golden Gate Corridor (1969).

The East Bay Municipal Utility District--to provide a water supply for parts of Alameda and Contra Costa counties (1923), and later to provide sewage disposal (1951).

The rate of urbanization in the Region following World War II strained the ability of general-purpose governments to provide urban services such as transportation, sewage, housing, schools, or to solve the environmental problems that accompany these. The answer was a proliferation of single-purpose special districts. In the 1950's and 1960's, there were attempts to control growth and urban sprawl and to address common problems, resulting in the formation of more single-purpose regional districts and planning agencies.

*The San Francisco Bay Region consists of nine counties: Alameda; Contra Costa; Marin; Napa; San Francisco; San Mateo; Santa Clara; Solano; and Sonoma. The region covers approximately 7,000 square miles and has an estimated combined population of nearly five million people. The Region contains 93 cities, 206 school districts, and over 600 special districts.

In 1959, representatives of 56 Bay Area cities met to discuss various regional councils--their functions, administration, operating principles, and the purpose and composition of such bodies. An organizational committee of local officials proceeded with plans for a council in the Bay Area to develop a comprehensive planning agency. Although cities took the lead in this effort, the problem of jurisdictional protectiveness soon emerged and counties became involved.

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) was formed in 1961, by a "Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement." Beginning in 1964, ABAG has received numerous federal grants to produce regional plans for the Bay Area's open space, community development, airports, land use, housing, air and water quality, human services and many other planning activities.

In addition to ABAG, there are thirteen single-purpose regional planning agencies in the San Francisco Bay Area. These districts are responsible either for provision of services, planning for services or controlling services such as transportation (surface and air), sewage, air, water, bay and ocean conservation, health, recreation, utilities, and land use.

The decision-makers of these regional and multiple county agencies are either elected or appointed public officials and/or their selected representative(s). The voters of the Bay Area Region, in certain districts, directly elect the public decision-makers to sit on the policy boards (e.g., BART). However, the members of at least nine of these regional agencies are appointed, with no direct voice from the voters.

The decision-makers hire and maintain a staff of experts who either themselves or through consultants perform the day-to-day detail work of those agencies. Policy decisions which affect the lives of all regional residents are either approved by committees or policy boards. There may or may not have been citizen participation.

From a non-white perspective, regional planning agencies are just another layer of government and part of the traditional white power structure. This "white power" concentration results from the existence of many predominantly white populated smaller cities--suburbs and rural areas making up the Region. Non-whites are generally clustered in San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose--the urban centers of the Region.

The Region vs Neighborhoods conference was the first opportunity for a public discussion by non-whites to document their regional planning views. Such a conference was long overdue and is only the beginning. A major conclusion of the conference was that regional planning has indeed excluded non-whites as policy makers, staff and minority planning activities/issues. A solitary attempt to rectify this situation is the Minority Citizens Advisory Committee* (MCAC) of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

*MCAC is composed of representatives from the Asian, Black and Hispanic communities of the nine Bay Area counties. Established in 1975 the committee is only advisory. The Bay Area League of Women Voters acknowledges MCAC as an effective example of citizen participation at the regional level.

Assemblyman John Knox, frankly stated in his keynote speech that:

The other factor is the question of participation of minorities in government in the San Francisco Bay Region. If you will look at all these regional planning agencies, which are almost invisible, I doubt if very many people could name any single member on any of these policy boards...

You do not see much minority representation in these agencies. In fact, until recently, there was none at all. Now, I think there is a little bit of tokenism which exists. But, the fact of the matter is, minorities, in the Bay Area have no input into the present regional government at all.

The lack of non-whites as policy makers and regional planners was the motivation for this conference. Its very purpose was to assess the impact of regional planning on the Region's non-white communities.

The fact that the conference took place, approximately Two-hundred people participated, and over seventy organizations were represented serves as proof that:

- o minorities do have a stake in regional planning;
- o many problems are still unsolved; and
- o regional planning recommendation can be developed with a minority perspective.

Assemblyman John T. Knox's Statement

I am very pleased to talk to you about one of my favorite subjects. I am not the father of regional government, but I have certainly been trying to create a Bay Area Planning Agency for about ten years. I have introduced bills in the legislature on three or four separate occasions, one of which came to within one vote of victory in the State Senate.

I can best explain the rationale for regional multi-purpose planning by giving you an example of a situation in Contra Costa and Solano Counties. The Dow Chemical Company would like to build two large plants: one in Contra Costa and one in Solano County.

Now, regardless of how you might feel about the presence of the Dow plant, this is what has happened after the Company has spent 10 to 12 million dollars in getting their environmental impact report done. They must go to 46 separate agencies in order to get the necessary permits to build the plants. The plants are projected to have a 15 billion dollar annual payroll in Contra Costa County alone; plus many hundreds of jobs which are badly needed in that area. Dow completed their environmental impact report, and one of the first agencies they went to was the Air Pollution Control District. The Air Pollution Control District has refused to allow them to build the plant because technically the plant would produce some additional air pollution, and as a result does not meet existing air pollution regulations.

The Catch 22 part of the situation is that the present use of the land involves raising sheep and cattle one year, crops another year, and with the grazing and raising of crops and burning of the subsoil, the present use of the land produces worse smog than the plant would produce.

I did not want to get into too technical a discussion of air pollution, but the aspect of this project which deals with regional planning is illustrated when I was making a speech before an association of plant managers and other major businesses of Contra Costa County. Of course they are upset about the Dow Plant development being blocked because the plant would help them pay additional taxes in the County. I am very upset about it myself. They said to me, "Why can't we have a multi-purpose decision? Why can't we have somebody look at the social, the economic, as well as the environmental factors, and make a decision as to what's in the best interest of the people in the County, considering all these factors?"

And I said, "Well, my friend, you opposed my regional planning bill when it was up, and that's exactly what that bill proposed to do. The idea is, with regional planning you have issues such as the Dow Plant, open space, recreation, or transportation decisions as to whether we build more highways or whether we beef up our mass transit, or whether we go to buses, or develop seaports and airports. All of these things should be considered not just by a single-purpose entity, as they are now. Rather, keep in mind all of the disciplines and all of the concerns that we as citizens of the Bay Area have. We are concerned about our health, so we are concerned about water pollution, air pollution and noise control. We are concerned also about our economy. We know that we have to have industry in order to have new jobs. We are concerned about recreation, about making sure we have open space, and forests, and so on. We want to be able to get to work and get to our recreation by way of transportation that is reasonable and available.

People say, "Shouldn't we have regional planning?" Well, the plain fact is that the Bay Area has regional planning, and has had it for a long time. We have in the Bay Area, depending on how one counts, about 22 regional agencies at the present time. The obvious ones I can name for you, and I am sure you know them as well as I: the Bay Area Rapid Transit District, the Bay Area Air Pollution Control District, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and so on and on.

These individual regional governments make regional decisions, and have made them for a long time. The question before us is whether or not we want to combine some, if not all, of these regional governments under one governing board so that board can make decisions based on all of the disciplines. They could look at a Dow Chemical plant and consider, from all aspects, whether or not it is something we should have in the Bay Area. That is what regional planning is all about.

The other factor is the question of participation of minorities in government in the San Francisco Bay Region. If you will look at all these regional planning agencies, which are almost invisible, I doubt if very many people could name any single member on any of these agencies. The average citizen does not even know some of these agencies exist; let alone where they meet or who are board members. And some of these agencies have tremendous power.

You do not see much minority representation on these agencies. In fact, until recently, there was none at all. Now, I think there is a little bit of tokenism which exists. But, the fact of the matter is, minorities in the Bay Area have no input into the present regional government at all. If we have the kind of proposal, which I have made repeatedly in the legislature, we would have an agency that is made up, first, of one-half city councilmen and supervisors--local government people. The most important chance of minority representation is the other half being directly elected by the people from districts. Those districts, as provided in the statute, can not be gerrymandered to exclude racial minorities. Everyone will have a chance to participate in regional planning and I think that's terribly important.

Minorities are getting more and more representation in local government. I think that will be particularly true with the district system having passed in San Francisco.

This agency would have the tremendous job of looking at five separate disciplines: transportation, water and air pollution; filling the Bay; open space lands, and so on. This agency would, in one board, have advisory committees and so on, clearly in the public's view; with the participation of the public in electing people to the board, which they do not do now, to make decisions on regional planning for the Bay Area based on all of the disciplines. And that is really what regional government is all about.

Let me leave you with one thought that I would like to repeat. And that is, it is not a question of whether to have regional government. That question has already been decided in the Bay Area. It was decided as far back as 1928 when the East Bay Regional Park District was established; or the East Bay Municipal Utility District. We already have regional government. What we are discussing is the best way to organize that regional government so that it is most responsive to the needs, desires, and welfare of all the people it represents.

Regionalism Response

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Token minority representation currently exists on regional bodies. This situation must be changed.
2. More minority representation is needed at all levels of government. Could a quota system be effective?
3. The Legislature should provide funds to educate minority communities regarding regional government/planning.

PROBLEMS/ISSUES

Panel discussion attendees expressed concern for the following issues:

1. Should there be a quota system to ensure minority participation, or would it merely become tokenism?
2. How can minority interests be represented on appointed boards?
3. What kind of regional planning bodies would serve the needs of minority communities?
4. Minority citizens need to be educated regarding the regional decision-making process and how regional decisions affect them.
5. Minority communities are still concerned about basic survival problems such as jobs, transportation, etc.
6. Should regional governments have power (MTC) or not (ABAG)?

SUMMARY

PANELISTS: Bob Covington, Director
Pre-Trial Diversion Project
San Francisco City/County

Curtis Henry, Consultant
Jefferson Associates, Inc.
Alameda County

Betty Fong, Associate Director
Southside Community Center
Contra Costa County

Peter LaBrie, Deputy Director
Oakland Community Development Office
Alameda County

Jack Ybarra, Transportation Consultant
Santa Clara County

SUMMARY-continued

This panel discussion was in direct response to Assemblyman John Knox's opening remarks.

Bob Covington then asked what planning agencies had to do with people. Professional planners play games with the community. Planners do not always consult the very people who will be affected by a proposed plan or program. The community is not informed regarding the real issues; therefore, citizen participation is not a reality.

Jack Ybarra stated that AB 625 did not provide for minority participation. AB 625 was merely an extension of the status quo serving the white-dominated decision-making process.

Peter LaBrie opposed a strong regional role because "regionalism is an academic affair." The gap between neighborhoods and city hall is closing; however, the gap between neighborhoods and regional governments is still great.

Curtis Henry asked if requiring and funding of minority elements to General Plans would ensure that minority issues be addressed.

Question: When will the bill on regional government be passed?

Knox's Response: I don't know. We have an almost totally new legislature starting next year and I do not know where some of the new members stand on this issue.

I do not say the bill I proposed is perfect. It is the best we have been able to come up with. I am disturbed about Mr. Ybarra's concern because he is saying that this proposal will continue the activities that have gone on in the past. That may be. I do not know. The problem is what do we if we do not make any changes? Do we just let the thing drift along, which really does what Mr. Ybarra said? Or do we do something else? If we do something else, what is it? I have made a suggestion. I would like to see somebody else make a suggestion. I will go along with somebody else's suggestion because I think the situation is urgent.

Question: Would you be in favor of a minority element which would address issues such as housing, transportation, health care? Would you favor funding such a proposal?

Knox's Response: Yes, that would be satisfactory with me. I think we have to sit down together and decide the best way to do it. But I see no problems in that at all.

Question: Would you favor funding such an element?

Knox's Response: Oh, sure! You see, under this bill, ABAG would be phased out. ABAG is funded by dues from local governments; so this would save both the cities and counties some money. There are annual funds available, under present law, for funding such an element, as well as all the other elements of the proposed multi-purpose agency.

Panel Response: The main thing that regional government can do is to provide better data so that better decisions can be made. Basically, I would be opposed to a strong regional government; I think that would be to the disadvantage of local governments.

Knox's Response: What you are talking about is a metropolitan government, which wipes out all city and county governments and becomes one huge government. I am opposed to that.

The bill I'm proposing does not add any more governmental power; nor does it give any agency any more power. There is no way of overriding local decision-making, except that the air pollution agency can now override local decision-making. The same with the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

You can not go out and just fill the bay. Right now, those agencies can override local governments when they feel the welfare of all of the people of the area is more important than the decision of the local government. My proposed bill simply puts it all in one place so you can see what is going on and who is making the decisions.

Audience

Response:

There must be a way to insure that Latino/Chicano people are appointed or elected to regional planning bodies.

Knox's Response:

I am very sympathetic to what you are saying. I know the present situation is horrible, and will get worse. The suggestion I made does not insure the minority representation you mentioned. It makes it more likely and more possible that such representation will take place, but I can not guarantee that will happen. Maybe a quota system can be used. But that creates problems because you get into fights as to which person should be appointed. I suppose those problems can be dealt with. In Sacramento, we are just now beginning to get Latino/Chicano representation, mostly from southern California. For years we had no one; now we have about five or so. Of course, all of those people worked their way into the legislature; became active in politics in their local areas; moved around to learn about politics; became active in the Democratic party; and did the things necessary to get elected to public office.

If people are trying to do that up here, I am not aware of it. It may be my fault. On the other hand, it is the fault of the people who would like to participate in the process and people like me do not know about them. I am all for broad public participation from every aspect of society. If somebody has some good ideas, I am very receptive to them because I can not get this bill without the support of the people you are talking about as well as others.

Question:

What have you or your office done to improve the situation on regional bodies such as MTC and ABAG?

Knox's Response: I am outside of ABAG. I do not think it does as much as it probably should in the area of minority participation. ABAG is a joint power agency created by a contract among the cities and counties which are members.

The State legislature does not have anything to do with that, except through moral persuasion. ABAG is not as good as it should be, but it is a lot better than it used to be. My effort is to combine these agencies and to try to get minority participation. I think you have raised a good point. I do not think we have worked as hard as we should to see if we can get minority participation. I voted for the bill which made the BART directors elected. I am not sure I voted right because while I thought the election system might improve minority representation, I was afraid that not enough people would know about the BART election and the candidates so that there wouldn't be a broad base of support and interest in it. That did not turn out to be true. There has been substantial interest in these posts and others. Nonetheless, I am not totally satisfied. I felt that the proposal that I made, where the agency had much more influence than five agencies, would be more publicized with more public input.

In 1967, the legislature's committee on regional planning in the Bay Area was formed. I was Chairman, with offices in San Francisco. Now, I am certain that had this conference taken place five or six years ago, rather than today, we would be in better shape. But we tried. We had hearings in all nine counties; we had press people; we reached out to find leaders. Now, I do not think that was adequate. I would much rather have a bill which is developed by local areas, instead of Sacramento. I would rather have some kind of conference with people from all over the area. This is very difficult to organize. We have spent a quarter of a million dollars on this study, and I guess we are going to have to spend more.

Position Paper

TESTIMONY BY VICENTE GONZALES, CONFEDERACION DE LA RAZA UNIDA

I am sure we are all concerned with many local issues. I want to tell you that there are community groups, funded and non-funded, which are involved in meeting the needs of people--and in initiating social change. Let me relate to you an incident which occurred this morning which will cause a social change in Sonora, Mexico. Before Echeverria left the Mexican presidency, he nationalized over 200,000 acres of Sonoran land. The land was nationalized due to the struggle of twenty-five poor people who had camped on the land and demanded the right to own land. Their claim was based on Mexican law dating from the revolution, which stated that no one could own over a few hundred acres of irrigated land. This nationalization of the land transferred 200,000 acres of farm land from 74 rich families to 9,000 people because 25 poor people demanded change.

We know that in California, in the San Joaquin Valley, there is a struggle taking place because California law says no one individual can own more than 100 acres of irrigated land. So the same fight is going on here in California. That is just to relate to you that it is possible one way or another to create social change.

Through the Raza Unida Party we have registered 18,000 people throughout the State. We have been mainly involved in political and social change. By applying political pressure, we have prevented the construction of a freeway in Union City on the basis of potential environmental impacts. Our struggle resulted in a lawsuit which went all the way to the United States Supreme Court. This established a new precedent. In addition, we found that the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is vulnerable to political pressure. MTC continued to support the building of this freeway. I and members of la Confederacion de la Raza Unida, with the assistance of the Mexican American Legal Defense Fund, filed a complaint with the Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C. They sent an investigator to find out whether or not we as minorities had input into MTC. An out of court settlement was made, a condition of which was that MTC form a minority citizens advisory committee. Through this protest, I was involved in the agreement which formed the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Minority Citizens Advisory Committee (MCAC). This advisory committee has performed outstandingly--they have secured monies for transportation and are still fighting to gain a greater voice in what happens. But we know that an advisory committee can only advise.

Let me, with that preface, go on to some ideas I have which I hope will stimulate you into thinking of solutions to local issues in which you may be involved, whether they be in Richmond, Alviso, San Jose, Redwood City, or Oakland.

TRANSPORTATION

I believe MTC and ABAG should provide a report on all regional projects, plans or studies, which will affect minority neighborhoods. This report should be concise and address itself solely to minority needs and issues. If you look at the Regional Transportation Plan of MTC and ABAG, minorities are always mentioned in one or two sentences. We are not given enough facts. We demand that there be a special report for senior citizens, older neighborhoods, and minority neighborhoods which will tell us what will be happening with freeway plans for the next 10 or 20 years. A special ABAG/MTC task force on transportation should be formed which will have our interest at heart.

A community review board should help select staff for the transportation task force to insure that competent community advocates are hired rather than ineffective tokens. A special ABAG/MTC task force on transportation should be formed. We want people we can deal with; who can give us information. We must have control of the plan and confidence in the staff so that we can have the facts on transportation plans for the next 20 years. Then we'll know well in advance:

- o MTC's plans for industrial parks 20 years from now
- o proposed rezoning for Oakland, Alviso, Redwood City, etc.
- o new airports
- o BART extensions

We need that kind of information before the plans are made if we are to be effective in bringing social change. And the only way to get that information is through a task force that works for us.

ENVIRONMENT

In this instance, we are talking about Alviso, a small community of 1,000 people, where plans for airport expansion would destroy the community. A community in Hayward was destroyed, a place called Russell City, where 1,000 people were dislocated. Any report which ABAG and MTC put together for us, the community must deal with: how our environment is being polluted--bad water, costly freeways, super-sewers (which we will have to pay for) pollution from automobiles, and from factories next to our neighborhoods.

We demand to know precisely what is planned for the environment of minority communities for tomorrow, the next ten years, the next 20 years.

HEALTH

Good health care is just as important and as badly needed as jobs. We have a number of clinics in Richmond, Alviso, and San Francisco. Our communities need permanent health clinics. We demand that ABAG zone public health clinics. ABAG's technical resources should be put to work for community health clinics and community action agencies.

ABAG does statistical studies on economic development, and on employment projections. ABAG should know that health is just as important and make it an agency priority.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

We hear so often that there is no minority input, or that there is no agency controlled by a coalition of Asians, Blacks, Chicanos, and maybe even senior citizens. We should solicit criminal justice grants so that we can develop our own programs. We should not always be an appendage to existing public agencies.

HOUSING

We have ABAG continuously planning, and their plans state that there should be minority housing. This is a general statement. We know that there have been thousands of apartments built. In Union City, 200 units of low-income housing were built which were rental units. Section 238 says that you can either rent, lease or own. Why is it that we minorities always have to have rentals? There should be more private ownership. Anyone here who is a non-minority knows that all people are proud. They don't want to be shut away in some rental place for 20 years and not have anything to show for it.

ABAG should look at the region--Richmond, San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose--and see what is being done to provide low-income housing. At least 75% of the homes being built should be for ownership and not for perpetuating housing authorities. Our people who are low income, on a fixed income, or retired, want to have an adequate economic base to qualify them for home ownership.

ABAG developed the Comprehensive General Plan--a plan for the next 20 years which designated certain areas for commercial, industrial, or residential uses. We want to know what is happening in the entire Bay Area with regard to zoning for low-income neighborhoods. Are they planning for us to have homes? Are they protecting open lands next to our neighborhoods so that we can build homes? How much land is available regionwide for building low-income housing? What is the comprehensive plan for residential land? That is the kind of information we need on housing. We are going to be concerned with the Mission District in San Francisco, and with East San Jose in Santa Clara County. But we have to look at the problem regionally. We want the experts to give us the information we need. If we don't like it, we will fight.

I have a couple more things that a friend of mine, Mr. George Cortez, Director of Housing, was discussing. Agencies come to us for minority input. We are not the experts; they are. We always provide our knowledge free when they appoint a minority advisory committee. They have seen the low-income areas of Oakland, the streets, the houses needing rehabilitation, but they do not know what's causing problems. They always assume we willingly go to meetings every other week, sacrifice family and job to provide the community input which is now a Federal requirement. How long are we going to continue being used? We should start charging for our expert advice! We have federally trained people in the system who will appoint one or two token representatives. But we are being used. We'd better start charging for our input.

We want to know what is happening regionwide. We want facts from ABAG. We also have suggestions to make. Subsidized housing should create housing cooperatives for families who cannot afford to buy a single-family home. Then families can pool their resources and buy an entire complex. Why should these complexes be owned by large corporations? Also, ABAG should begin to publish bilingual community housing education programs. We need to have regionwide information on housing because we are tired of renting.

REGIONAL PLANNING

Each county should have grant monies for minority planning studies. ABAG and MTC should consider forming special task forces in each county to work with minority communities. We need our own experts, and should train our own people. We are never going anywhere until we train people who will be responsive to the minority communities.

When MTC was awarded the \$100,000 for assessing the needs of minority groups, the statement was made to me that they were going to save administrative money by making one contract for the entire Bay Area. Well, to me, administrative money for contracting with minorities is an investment. It is an investment in building a pool of minority professional resources in San Francisco, San Mateo, or Richmond--the entire Bay Area. It means contracting with 10 or 12 individual groups in San Jose or San Mateo to develop our own professional capacity. We are told that there is no input from us because we do not understand the planning process. If ABAG cannot provide us with a comprehensive minority point of view, then they're not doing their job.

I suggest these institutionalized agencies be required to form minority advisory committees. We need professional input in planning so that we will really know what is proposed and what is going on. We need our own minority officials to make changes. It is time to draw the line and start getting more serious.

Addresses of Speakers

David Aldape, Community Liaison
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Hotel Claremont
Berkeley, California 94705
849-3223

Delia Alvarez, Acting Executive Director
Santa Clara County Health System Agency
1190 South Bascom Avenue
San Jose, California 95128
292-9572

Cecelia Arroyo, Regional Planner
Association of Bay Area Governments
Hotel Claremont
Berkeley, California 94705
841-9730

Larry Asera, Supervisor-Elect
Solano County Board of Supervisors
500 N. Texas Street
Fairfield, California 94533
429-6311

Paul Bay, Deputy Director
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Hotel Claremont
Berkeley, California 94705
849-3223

Clifford M. Boxley, Director
PROBE Community Development Center
2615 Fair Oaks Avenue
Redwood City, California 94063
369-8249

Gil Brigham, Assistant Director
Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice
1182 Market Street
San Francisco, California 94102
558-3456

Sara Conner
Bay Area League of Women Voters
2741 Jennifer Drive
Castro Valley, California 94546
582-8994

Bob Covington, Director
San Francisco Pretrial Diversion
Project
739 Bryant Street
San Francisco, California
543-6345

Lu de Silva, Administrative Officer
Association of Bay Area Governments
Hotel Claremont
Berkeley, California 94705
841-9730

Maria Estrada, Board of Directors
La Familia Agency of Marin County
192 Belvedere, #2
San Rafael, California 94901
453-8958

Betty Fong, Associate Director
Southside Community Center
745 South 14th Street
Richmond, California 94804
529-0859

Vicente Gonzales
Confederacion de la Raza Unida
33719 - 13th Street
Union City, California 94587
489-4029

Curtis Henry
Jefferson & Associates of
San Francisco
155 Montgomery Street, Suite 808
San Francisco, California 94104
788-0111

John Knox, Assemblyman
3606 Macdonald Avenue
Richmond, California 94805
237-8171

Peter La Brie, Assistant Director
Office of Community Development
1333 Broadway, Suite 400
Oakland, California 94612
834-2010

Addresses of Speakers

Dean Macris, Associate Executive Director
Association of Bay Area Governments
Hotel Claremont
Berkeley, California 94705
841-9730

Lillian MacWilliams
2119 Pierce Street
San Francisco, California
921-7591

John "Skip" McKoy, Director,
Planning and Programming
Association of Bay Area Governments
Hotel Claremont
Berkeley, California 94705
841-9730

Alfred O. Parham, Executive
Director
Southside Community Center
745 South 14th Street
Richmond, California 94804
237-9030

Jean Safir, Senior Regional
Planner
Association of Bay Area
Governments
Hotel Claremont
Berkeley, California 94705
841-9730

Jack Ybarra, Transportation
Consultant
Metropolitan Transportation
Commission
Hotel Claremont
Berkeley, California 94705
849-3223

Panel Discussion Summaries

Transportation

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Equity transportation issues need to be addressed as they relate to impacts on minority communities.
2. Minority transportation subcommittees should be developed at the regional level.
3. Minority involvement is needed at the consumer/county level to participate on regional committees.
4. Additional services needed by senior citizens should be investigated.

Panel discussion attendees expressed concern for the following problems:

PROBLEMS/ISSUES

1. Insufficient transportation funds to adequately meet the needs, especially for the poor, aged and disabled.
2. Lack of minority subcommittees to involve transportation consumers at the county and city levels.
3. Lack of public transportation to isolated rural areas.
4. High cost of public transportation.
5. MTC's priorities in allocating transportation funds (e.g., the high number of fatalities occurring on the Hoffman Freeway; a new freeway has not been built).
6. Transportation for senior citizens and youths.

SUMMARY

Panelists: Paul Bay, Deputy Executive Director
Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)

Jack Ybarra, Transportation Consultant,
Santa Clara County

This panel discussion dealt with transportation and MTC's Minority Citizens Advisory Committee.

Jack Ybarra began by stating that transportation is a critical need for minorities living in Santa Clara County. Public transportation is available but on a very limited basis. Individuals living in rural areas are isolated from employment centers, educational institutions, recreational facilities, etc.

Paul Bay then discussed the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. MTC was created by the California State Legislature in 1970 to coordinate transportation planning in the nine-county Bay Area. MTC is empowered to review and make recommendations on all applications for State and Federal transportation funds sought by local governments and public transportation agencies. MTC also has veto power over transportation projects not in conformance with the adopted Regional Transportation Plan. It also has some funding control to influence the scope and direction of public transit planning.

MTC's efforts in minority involvement include the Minority Citizens Advisory Committee and the Minority Community Assessment Program.

The composition of the Minority Citizens Advisory Committee and its selection process came under attack. MTC was severely criticized for involving minority representatives not knowledgeable in all areas of transportation and who might be viewed as tokens.

One participant from the audience stated that all the money and planning done in the area of transportation had not helped her. Special bus lanes have been created on the Bay Bridge but she cannot afford to ride the bus. Nor can she afford to drive her car to work in the City. Poor people's needs are still not being met by public transportation--BART is the best example.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. There must be a balance of environmental concerns and the potential creation of jobs for minority communities.
2. Assessments should be made to determine social impacts of environmental projects on minority communities.
3. Minority community members are needed to participate in ABAG's Environmental Management Program and its subcommittees.

PROBLEMS/ISSUES

Panel discussion attendees expressed concern for the following needs:

1. Pollution control measures should not eliminate jobs (e.g., Bay Area Air Pollution Control District's decision against the development of the Dow Chemical Plant in Solano County. This decision is currently under appeal.)
2. Can regional bodies, such as ABAG, stop the dislocation of minority communities?
3. Is regional tax sharing a solution?
4. How can "clean industries" be attracted to the major urban centers and not only to the suburban areas?

SUMMARY

PANELISTS: Curtis Henry, Consultant
Jefferson Associates, Inc.

Dean Macris, Associate Executive Director
Association of Bay Area Governments

This panel discussion dealt with the environment and ABAG's Environmental Management Program.

Curtis Henry began by stating that minority communities must become more involved in environmental planning. Also, minority communities need to know the ramifications of potential environmental impacts.

Dean Macris then described ABAG's Environmental Management Program. Responsibilities for environmental management were assigned to ABAG through Section 208 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972. The Environmental Management Program, also referred to as the 208 program, will have a significant influence on residents of the Bay Region and future life styles. The program seeks to preserve, enhance and restore the quality of the environment by applying planning and management tools.

The 208 program will set standards for air and water quality, and for refuse disposal. Economic impacts will be reviewed as well as social issues.

Developing the Environmental Management Program is a monumental task, further complicated by the myriad of governmental bodies which in turn leads to confusion and gaps in authority.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. ABAG should be called on to act as a mediator between neighborhood groups and state/federal housing officials.
2. ABAG should be called on to provide up-to-date information and data.

PROBLEMS/ISSUES

Panel discussion attendees expressed concern for the following problems:

1. Funds available for senior citizen housing improvement programs need to be increased.
2. More community participation is needed in developing plans for the disbursement of housing funds.
3. Federal monies in local areas are not doing what they were intended to do.
4. Minority communities need viable solutions to meet housing needs.

SUMMARY

PANELISTS: Peter La Brie, Deputy Director
Office of Oakland Community Development

Jean Safir, Senior Regional Planner
Association of Bay Area Governments

This discussion dealt with housing as it relates to the Housing and Community Development Block Grant programs.

Peter La Brie began by relating that federal/state funding resources do not match local needs. He cited the City of Oakland as a specific example. Regional governments, like ABAG, could best serve local governments by acting as an advocate in the funding arena and distributing a wealth of information (e.g., sophisticated data).

Jean Safir then described how ABAG is developing a regional housing role through the adopted Regional Housing Element, Phase I, and the approved Regional Housing Subsidy Distribution System.* ABAG does not want housing subsidies to re-inforce the ghettos, yet cities have to get enough federal assistance to meet the needs of their lower-income residents.

* The Regional Housing Subsidy Distribution System will provide for the distribution of available housing subsidy funds to localities throughout the Bay Area for lower income families in renting suitable housing in communities that meet their needs. Contact ABAG housing staff for more detailed information.

The Regional Office of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has just now begun to allow ABAG into the decision-making process. ABAG will now work with HUD in deciding how the housing assistance funds should be distributed among Bay Area jurisdictions.

ABAG's housing work also includes (1) legislative advocacy, representing the region's perspective to state and federal legislators and governmental agencies; and (2) disseminating information on housing programs to citizen groups and to concerned citizens.

RECOMMENDATION Minority communities need to understand the impact of HSAs and make sure that minority representatives are appointed to governing boards.

- PROBLEMS/ISSUES** Panel discussion attendees expressed concern for the following needs:
1. Minorities are sadly under-represented in the health field. Special admission policies for minorities in medical schools are being challenged.
 2. There are too many doctors and hospitals in wealthy areas, while poor communities are neglected, e.g., Palo Alto and East Palo Alto.
 3. The ability of local areas to apply for status as sub-area planning units is not clearly defined. (Santa Clara County does not plan to have sub-area councils.)
 4. Decent health care delivery systems are lacking for poor people.
 5. Is there a regional health planning program?

SUMMARY **PANELISTS:** Delia Alvarez, Interim Executive Director
Health System Agency (HSA)
Santa Clara County

Clifford Boxley, Director
PROBE Community Development Center
Redwood City

This panel discussion dealt with the development of Health System Agencies (HSAs) in the Bay Area. Santa Clara County's Health System Agency was cited as an example because it is officially designated and the boundary is coterminous with the County boundary.

The National Health Planning and Resources Development Act of 1974 created the Health Systems Agencies which replaced state and areawide comprehensive health planning agencies. HSAs have regulatory powers to determine the level of health care facilities and services available; control health resources development; and are responsible for developing health plans.

In the Bay Area only two HSAs have been designated: North Bay HSA, consisting of Sonoma, Napa and Solano, and Santa Clara County HSA. The West Bay (consisting of Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo) and the East Bay (consisting of Alameda and Contra Costa) have yet to be designated.

HSAs provide an excellent opportunity for minorities to get involved in the decision-making process from the beginning. HSA law is specific regarding participation by minorities and women.

In Santa Clara County the HSA Board is designated by the County Board of Supervisors. There are thirty members--17 consumers and 13 providers. A maximum of one-third of the membership will be elected public officials. Currently, there are nine minority members who have formed a minority coalition. This minority coalition has become a powerful influence since 16 members are needed to approve any decision.

Health Service Agencies have the potential of becoming very powerful. Minority communities should make themselves a part of the health system agencies' decision-making process.

Criminal Justice

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Community based projects are needed; however, traditional law enforcement agencies would probably not support them.
2. There are six criminal justice regions in the nine-county Bay Area. They are regional planning units and should be re-evaluated.
3. ABAG's role in criminal justice is only in the area of A-95 Metropolitan Clearinghouse review of grant proposals and should be expanded.
4. See recommendations (attached) from the June, 1975 San Francisco Community Congress.

PROBLEMS/ISSUES

Panel discussion attendees expressed concern for the following needs:

1. Lack of community/local control over criminal justice funding, programs, policy-making boards and juries.
2. Distribution of funds is based on population rather than need.
3. Vested interests make up the criminal justice system.
4. Outside people impact on local communities (e.g., 60% of the police force live outside the area; 1/3 of those jailed are from outside areas).

SUMMARY

PANELISTS: Bob Covington, Director
Pre-Trial Diversion Project
San Francisco

Gil Brigham, Deputy Director
Mayors' Criminal Justice Council
San Francisco

This panel discussion dealt with criminal justice in the City/County of San Francisco. Testimony was presented regarding San Francisco's June, 1975 Community Congress.

Criminal justice needs far exceed funding available. There is a lack of local control regarding funding and programs. Funds are allocated from Washington directly to the state and redistributed without local input.

Policy making bodies are another problem since present laws do not stipulate that community representation is a requirement. Community representatives constitute a small percentage of the appointments.

At the present time, criminal justice is not within the realm of regional government. Regional criminal justice councils exist but most are simply one-county councils. In the nine Bay Area counties, there are six regional criminal justice councils.

Criminal Justice

The local criminal justice system does not work. It neither reduces crime, assists convicted offenders, nor administers so-called justice equally. Its component parts often work at cross purposes; citizen input and control of decisions are minimal and are discouraged. It is a system based on class, prejudice, racism, sexism, and ageism; criminals in positions of authority and power are left undisturbed.

When administrators and policy-makers of the criminal justice system observe the increasing rates of crime and recidivism and the growing unrest behind bars, they lament that their function is not being fulfilled to its capacity. Their goal is to make the "apparatus" more efficient by replacing parts as they wear out, retaining the original frame. This is a limited and mechanical approach, because it offers what is of use or advantage, rather than what is right or just.

As critics of the criminal justice system, we believe expediency in reform precludes definitive change. Rather than simply making internal changes (e.g. better staff, consolidation of services), institutions must be opened up to the community to encourage participation in creating and pushing for viable alternatives. Every aspect of the process from arrest and conviction to institutionalization of people must be challenged and examined with regard to its fairness; the meanings and the effects of any action that denies a person basic freedoms should be critically investigated to determine its necessity.

I. Decriminalization of all Non-victim Crimes

We call for the decriminalization of all non-victim crimes. These crimes currently label many law-abiding citizens as criminals and crowd our courts, jails, prisons, and correctional agencies with people who otherwise might not in any way be involved in the criminal justice system. Until decriminalization we favor the use of mandatory citation procedures.

Therefore, we call for the repeal of Penal Code Section 647 which makes it a misdemeanor for anyone who:

- a. Solicits or engages in lewd or dissolute conduct in a public place.
- b. Solicits or engages in any act of prostitution.
- c. Beggars.
- d. Loiters in or about any public toilet to solicit.
- e. Loiters or wanders upon the streets without apparent reason and who refuses to identify him/her self and account for presence when requested by the police to do so.
- f. Is under the influence of drugs or liquor.

We also call for the repeal of Penal Code Section 290 which calls for the registration of sex offenders with local police agencies. We support the repeal of Penal Code Sections 286 and 288a (AB 489; Brown (D) SF) and therefore oppose the proposed referendum designed to reinstate those Penal Code sections.

A. Public Inebriation

We support the intent of SB 329 which will decriminalize public inebriation. San Francisco should establish a policy in which people who are incapacitated due to alcohol consumption can voluntarily be taken to small detoxification centers, both privately operated and government run, where they will be allowed to remain until they have recovered sufficiently to look after their own welfare. There will be no involuntary detention, and it is up to the inebriate to stay as long as he/she sees fit. The emphasis on the custody and care given in the detoxification programs will be solely that of care and rehabilitation. There will be no punitive approaches allowed. If a public inebriate happens to like the way of life as an alcoholic, there will be no compulsion or coercion to require the person to change it.

B. Drug Use

The present policy of discouragement of drug use through the utilization of the criminal law has not only failed in its purpose but has been excessively costly and harmful to both society and the individual. Enforcement of the current laws is selective, with the brunt of enforcement falling upon racial and cultural minorities and the poor. Drug laws subject otherwise law-abiding persons to harassment, arrest, fines, incarceration and life-time criminal records for an offense which poses no threat to other persons or society as a whole. The harm which results to the individual person when dragged through the criminal justice system far exceeds any potential harm to the person's health from the use of drugs.

The Community Congress calls for the removal of criminal penalties for the possession and cultivation of marijuana and other drugs for personal use and urges broad application of citation arrest/release procedures and non-jail penalties for minor drug law offenders until these laws are totally repealed. We support SB 95.

C. Prostitution

We urge that the San Francisco Police Department and the District Attorney's office allocate no resources for the criminalization and prosecution of prostitutes and that the Legislative Advocate in Sacramento actively support legislation to decriminalize prostitution. We also call for the City and County of San Francisco to institute litigation to question the constitutionality of the laws relating to prostitution.

II. Police and Police Procedures

We oppose harassment by the San Francisco Police. Criminal conduct must be the reason for a police response not such things as status, race or life-style.

A citizen's right to stand in a public place cannot be dependent on the "whim of any police officer".

Exercise of authority of government must be exercised "by clearly defined laws...rather than government by the moment to moment opinions of a policeman on his beat". (Shuttlesworth v. Birmingham, 382 US, 1965)

A. Street Stops and Arrests

We support the Northern California Police Practices Project guidelines on stop and frisk and witness procedures. We propose that street stops and arrests follow certain guidelines:

1. A street stop must be based on specific, explainable facts which justify a short period of detention for immediate investigative purposes. The stop may be conducted when the officer has some degree of proof that the person is involved in a crime. The officer shall inform each person stopped of the specific reasons of the stop and his/her rights under the law.
2. An arrest is the detention of a person which is based on specific facts that give the officer probable cause to believe that the person has committed a crime.
3. The police shall not order any witnesses, including on-lookers and curious people, to "move on" from the scene of the arrest unless that person is interfering with the arrest. Verbal protests and the asking of questions do not qualify as interfering with an arrest.
4. Warrant-less searches shall only be conducted to remove weapons that the arrested person might use to resist arrest and to seize evidence of the crime for which the arrest has been made if such evidence might otherwise be destroyed.

B. District Stations

We support the retention of at least nine district police stations and strongly oppose the attempts on the part of the City and police officials to re-locate or to reduce the number of neighborhood stations and impose centralized police facilities. We oppose the re-deployment of patrol forces from district stations and residential neighborhoods to downtown areas.

All efforts must be made to insure that the entire SFPD be made up of residents of the City. Composition of a neighborhood police station police force should reflect the ethnic and cultural composition of the neighborhood, including consideration for languages spoken and sexual orientation represented in that neighborhood.

C. Police Commission

The San Francisco Police Commission should be enlarged, the present Commissioners removed, and members representative of the San Francisco community elected.

D. Handling Violence Arising from Family and Other Disputes Between People Prevention:

The prevention of violence between people should be primarily a family and community function and not one of police control. To this end, child, feminist, and family counseling services under the control of community and ethnic groups should be available in every neighborhood. These should be backed up by emergency teams covering telephone watch, transportation, shelter as well as emergency medical assistance. Racial, sexual, affectional preference and age bias and discrimination has to be combatted by these teams.

Protection of Victims:

1. When family and community services are not available or have not been able to remove the threat of bodily harm, the protection of people must have a higher priority than patrolling property or giving out tickets. Response should be immediate and its purpose must be the prevention of violence or further violence. Arrest and/or punishment is a last resort and not a solution.

2. Any arrest must be governed by the conditions and safeguards set out in Section I and Section II, Part A above.
3. All criminal complaints and evidence must be given equal weight until they have been duly processed according to procedures recommended in this report.
4. Sex, age, affectional preference, and racial discrimination by police takes the form of who they arrest, who they listen to, who they order about, who they brutalize; and also who they do not arrest, do not listen to, acts they overlook, who they do not brutalize. Family, neighbors, friends, community organizations all have the duty to observe, watch, and report and then support the victims of police hostility and brutality and act against such conduct whatever the form it takes.
5. Translators for Spanish, Japanese, Chinese, and Tagalog should be available to assist police in responding to domestic disputes.
6. Police records on domestic calls should be computerized, open to the public but not contain names and addresses of those involved. These records should reveal:
 - a. Number of domestic calls received by police.
 - b. Time-lapse in police response to each call.
 - c. Number of arrests resulting from domestic calls.
 - d. Number of repeat calls.
 - e. Number of serious injuries and/or homicides resulting from repeat-call situations.
7. We support adequate police protection of senior citizens especially in those sections of the City where there exists a large concentration of such residents, such as North of Market and Oceanview-Merced Heights-Ingleside (OMI). This is to include 24 hour foot patrol in these neighborhoods and stringent enforcement of the laws against assailants of older people. The San Francisco Community Congress agrees that the issue of domestic violence is an important issue which needs an on-going work group for further study, work and action.

E. Handling of Rape Cases

The San Francisco District Attorney's office should make a priority the prosecution of rape cases. Rape crisis centers should be established to provide supportive services to victims of rape, as well as an alternative to the police department for the reporting of rape, if that is the choice of the victim. In the interim before decriminalization of low-fear crimes, priorities of the Police Department and District Attorney's office should be re-ordered to de-emphasize low-fear crimes (prostitution, sexual conduct, possession of marijuana, etc.) in order to provide resources for dealing with high-fear crimes (crimes of violence to persons -- rape, murder, assault, etc.). Language of the Penal Code presently stating "it is impossible for a husband to rape his wife" should be struck. The District Attorney who is an elected official of the City and County of San Francisco should make it the policy of that Office to encourage and act upon all citizen's complaints.

III. Psychiatric Oppression

Criminal justice and psychiatry are becoming increasingly interwoven. Traditional psychiatric treatments are used primarily as tools for repressive social control. Basic human rights are being systematically violated by the forced administration of various mind-altering techniques. Psychiatric institutions have not been open to sufficient public scrutiny and imput

We therefore support the public forum with St. Mary's McAuley Neuropsychiatric Institute, proposed by the Network Against Psychiatric Assault (NAPA), because evidence indicates that St. Mary's is operating an unusually oppressive psychiatric facility.

We support legislative and other action to prohibit forced psychiatric and medical treatment on inmates in penal and psychiatric institutions, as well as people on probation, parole, and out-patient status. We also support action to abolish involuntary psychiatric commitment and to eliminate the use of medical and psychiatric experimentation on penal and psychiatric inmates.

We support the State's waiving of mental health screening under the Child Health Disability Prevention Program until there is a clear and strong consensus about how to do such screening.

IV. The Legal Process

The following positions we have taken are an attempt to deal with some of those issues from arrest to conviction.

1. All legal rights must be afforded to all arrested and detained persons during the initial hours of detention. Failure to do so must be brought to the attention of an independent, full-time, accessible ombudsperson for follow-up and possible civil and/or criminal recourse against the responsible agencies and persons.
2. The money bail system should be eliminated. The Community Congress should engage in further action to develop standards for OR (own recognizance).

3. Adequate representation of Third World and poor people on juries must be insured.
 - a. Selection should be from some source other than voter registration lists.
 - b. Jurors pay should be increased from \$6.00/day to at least \$20.00/day.
4. The Grand Jury should be abolished because of:
 - a. Its power to compel testimony.
 - b. Its secrecy.
 - c. Its non-representative composition.
5. Minors within the criminal justice system should be de-institutionalized. Institutionalization is detrimental to children and the ensuing adults. The community can and should take care of its children. Criteria used for the selection of surrogate parents should be re-oriented to keeping children in their own community.
6. The use of plea bargaining in San Francisco courts should be eliminated. The system of assembly line justice must end.
7. The City should provide improved and expanded neighborhood controlled legal assistance, community education, and self defense capability to indigent defendants. It should establish a consumer regulated system of evaluation of private attorneys, especially those who serve as lawyer referral panels. Information on attorneys' costs, success rates, and fields of particular interest should be easily available to consumers. A panel with a majority of public non-lawyer members representative of an ethnic, economic, affectional preference, and sexual cross section of the community should be established to evaluate the complaints of people who have been poorly represented or misrepresented by lawyers.
8. The Public Defender's Office should be funded at a level that adequately protects the fundamental democratic rights of poor and Third World people. The Public Defender's office should be reorganized to include neighborhood offices, under neighborhood control, and represent the interests of those it is supposed to serve -- the poor and Third World people of San Francisco.
9. All local and State Bar Association decision-making bodies should be a majority of public non-lawyer members, representative of those people currently disenfranchised from making decisions about the delivery of legal services.
10. The district attorney must be made to order his/her priorities away from victimless crimes.
11. Every San Francisco Judge should be required to spend at least one week per year in the San Francisco County Jail.
12. Every Board, Commission, Executive Committee, etc. of all local criminal justice agencies should have at least 51% community representation consistent with the ethnic and economic make-up of San Francisco neighborhoods as voting members.
13. The Mayor's Criminal Justice Council (the body which sets Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration funding priorities and plans for the overall administration of justice departments in San Francisco) needs a total re-organization and change in personnel, priorities and direction. It must have maximum community scrutiny and veto power at all levels of decision making and programming. Additionally, there should be a separate community-based clearing house for information and education on all LEAA and criminal justice projects in San Francisco.
14. The use of restraints in the courtroom such as manacles, shackles, and waist chains which are increasingly used on Black and Brown defendants create in the jurors' minds an impression of guilt, deprive the defendants of their right to a presumption of innocence and must be prohibited.
15. Defendants are entitled to a public trial. Procedures which discourage spectators from attending a criminal proceeding (for instance requirements that spectators identify themselves, be photographed and/or finger printed) violate constitutional rights of both the spectators and, therefore, should be prohibited.

V. Jails and Prisons

1. We endorse the moratorium on the construction of jails, prisons, and other detention facilities.
2. We call for the full restoration of civil and human rights for prisoners.
 - a. Adequate access to legal counsel.
 1. Adequate legal defense be available for convicted persons at every stage of their time in jail or prison.
 2. The establishment of an adequately funded appellate defenders office representative of the inmate population and easily assessable to prisoners.
 3. Adequate prisoner representation in all proceedings effecting conditions and welfare. Right to legal counsel in all disciplinary and classification hearings as well as the right to represent oneself in such hearings and in affirmative proceedings initiated by themselves.
 4. Adequate libraries and training in legal research be available at the San Francisco County Jails and in all State and Federal institutions.

- b. Prisoners, including minors, are due the same constitutional and civil rights and considerations as any other person: the right to free speech, association and religious beliefs, uncensored mail, free access to literature and books, adequate visiting rights, right to be free from physical and psychological attack, and the right to participate and be heard in proceedings effecting their conditions. Laws should not penalize prisoners more than others for the same acts.
- c. We oppose any sex-based discrimination applied to confined persons, either pre-trial or post-conviction, which results in an inequality of conditions of confinement, access to educational or rehabilitative programs, access to the community or which in any other way imposes greater limitations on freedom of movement, association or privacy than experienced by those of the other sex.
- d. The right of prisoners to organize, to collectively bargain with the prison administration, to support convict initiated change, to seek redress for grievances, and to regain their civil and human rights as outlined by the Prisoners Union; the right to a prevailing wage and an end to economic exploitation must be recognized.
- e. We propose that community groups demand that the Department of Public Health set up a Division of Prison Health within that department. This Division of Prison Health should be controlled by a board of directors composed of current prisoners, prisoner support groups, and other organizations from poor and Third World communities active in health and criminal justice issues.
 1. Budget all positions specified in the Frank Fine (Prisoner Health Project) proposal, including 37 nurses or nurse-equivalents (including screeners).
 2. Health department control of medical social workers and drivers and vehicles for transporting prisoners to the hospital. No new positions or funds for the law enforcement agencies.
 3. Voluntary jail psychiatric services within the jail health division, separated from court ordered diagnostic evaluations (which would remain with the Criminal Justice Unit). Such information gathered during these services shall be confidential and not subject to release to courts.
 4. Full-time director with substantial supportive staff.
 5. Staff responsible directly to the Board to investigate grievances of prisoners-patients with ombudsperson and/or patient advocates and for research, planning, and evaluation.
 6. Ex-prisoner priority for all jail health jobs.
 7. Full budget for a security ward in the San Francisco General Hospital so prisoners can receive quality in-patient care.
- f. A determined sentence plan as outlined by the Coordinating Council of Prisoner Organizations which includes:
 1. Equal justice for all offenders.
 2. Seven categories of crime based on harm done, intent, and motive.
 3. Determined sentences of reasonable length fixed by law.
 4. Sentences under two years except in cases where serious bodily harm occurs.
 5. No life sentences.
 6. No death sentences.
 7. Decriminalization of all victimless crimes.
 8. Petty property crimes and improper sale of controlled substances reduced to a misdemeanor.
 9. No pleading to priors.
 10. No parole.
3. We believe that punitive and 'rehabilitative' functions should be separated, and that all 'rehabilitation' services to prisoners be the same services that are available to free people, and that they be the uncoerced choice of the prisoners.
4. The community at large must work toward creation and utilization of alternatives to incarceration. We propose that community groups involve themselves with people who have been convicted of crimes. In order to do that we suggest that community groups make themselves available as alternatives to incarceration and develop programs where would-be prisoners could participate. Funding of such would come from monies that otherwise are being spent for the up-keep of jails.
5. The Federal Bureau of Prisons should be abolished.
6. All political prisoners should be freed.

VI. Youth

- Exploitive, destructive, socio-economic conditions are the primary cause of dependency and imprisonment of youth; and the most affected, dependent and imprisoned youth have the least power to correct those conditions. We therefore urge:
1. That community and supportive agencies immediately seek means to dismantle juvenile correctional institutions and all institutionalization of youth and stop using the words 'juvenile delinquency' to describe the reaction of youth powerlessness to deal with those oppressive, socio-economic conditions.

2. That in place of juvenile courts, community councils be established, whose members are elected by their respective neighborhoods; these councils be given responsibility and authority for disposition of cases with the intent that the youth be responsible to the community and the community be responsible to the youth.

In order to accomplish the above, we recommend that an Office of Youth be established with a City-wide policy board and a minimum of five district advisory boards with a majority of community members who reflect a non-institutional orientation. A central administration with five district offices should be established which would coordinate public and private agencies to insure the necessary support resources for youth which will help keep the youth in their home and neighborhood environment where at all possible. The Office of Youth would insure that all monies go directly to youth for support, to include health, welfare, education, employment, housing, etc. utilizing community-based alternatives.

Minorities/Regional Policy Makers

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Minority communities need to put constant pressure on regional policy boards (e.g. ABAG Executive Board, MTC Board of Commissioners) to ensure minority participation at all levels--policy making, staffing and planning activities.
2. Minority communities need to become familiar with all the regional policy boards, their basic purpose, legal requirements, elected and/or appointed members and identify which officials are responsive to minority concerns.

PROBLEMS/ISSUES

1. There are few minority elected officials who participate at the regional level.
2. How can the minority community learn about important issues that will impact ethnic and racial communities directly?
3. How can politicians be made to be more responsive to minority concerns?
(District elections were discussed as a possible alternative.)
4. The lack of elected officials in attendance at the conference.

SUMMARY

PANELISTS:

Supervisor-Elect Larry Asera
Solano County

John "Skip" McKoy, Director of Planning
and Programming
Association of Bay Area Governments

This panel discussion dealt with Minorities/Regional Policy Makers.

Supervisor-Elect Asera emphasized the fact that there are a handful of minority elected officials in the Region. Consequently, minority officials experience difficulty in being visible at the regional level.

Supervisor-Elect Asera recommended that planning should be brought to the community to lessen the communication gap. He also recommended that minorities should work to assist minorities seeking public office. If this is not feasible, then officials who relate to minority concerns should be identified.

Skip McKoy then stated that regional agencies have not been pressured as much as they could be by minority communities. Since regionalism is here to stay, minorities should identify which issues are important and which issues will impact them directly.

Skip McKoy recommended that minorities become informed regarding regional planning. As a beginning, he distributed information which identified minority elected and/or appointed officials participating at the regional level (refer to attachment).

- o Association of Bay Area Governments
(2 minority representatives; 5 minority alternates)
- o Bay Area Air Pollution Control District
(no minority board members)
- o Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District
(3 minority elected officials)
- o Bay Area Rapid Transit District
(2 minority board members)
- o California Regional Water Quality Control Board of San Francisco Bay Region
(no minority board members)
- o San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
(1 Public Representative, 1 County Representative and Assemblyman John Miller)
- o Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transportation District
(2 minority representatives)
- o Metropolitan Transportation Commission
(no minority board members)

Concern was expressed that although elected officials were notified of the conference only Larry Asera and Joe Coto attended.

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Contra Costa	**Mayor Pro Tem Richard M. Bartke (El Cerrito) **Councilman Ned Robinson (Lafayette)	Councilman Thomas J. Corcoran (Richmond) Vice Mayor Charles D. Evans (Clayton)
Marin	*Councilwoman Sherry Levit (Belvedere)	Mayor Gerald Hood (Mill Valley)
Napa	*Mayor Ralph C. Bolin (Napa)	Mayor Lowell Smith (St. Helena)
San Francisco	*Mayor George R. Moscone *Mr. Thomas J. Mellon, CAO	Mr. Rudy Nothenberg Mr. Thomas G. Miller
San Mateo	**Councilman Anthony Governale (San Bruno) **Councilman Nat Landes (Woodside)	Councilwoman Jane Baker (San Mateo) Councilman R. David Martin (Burlingame)
Santa Clara	*Councilman James E. Jackson (Cupertino) *Vice Mayor William R. Podgorsek (Campbell)	Councilwoman Judith Moss (Mtn. View) Councilwoman Lucy Hillestad (Los Altos Hills)
Solano	**Mayor William J. Carroll (Vacaville)	Councilman Larry Asera (Vallejo)
Sonoma	**Councilman Jack W. Cavanagh, Jr. (Petaluma)	Vice Mayor Nancy Parmelee (Sonoma)
City of Oakland	*Councilman Felix Chialvo *Councilman Fred Maggiora *Councilman Joshua Rose	Councilman Raymond L. Eng Councilman John Sutter Vice Mayor George J. Vukasin
City of San Jose	*Councilman Alfredo Garza, Jr. *Mayor Janet Gray Hayes *Councilwoman Susanne B. Wilson	Councilman James E. Self Councilman Larry Pegram Councilman Joe Colla

*Term of Office: July 1, 1976 - June 30, 1978

**Term of Office: July 1, 1975 - June 30, 1977

***Circled names indicate non-white representatives

Advisory Member: Barbara Eastman
San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board

Alt. Advisory Member: Mr. Louis P. Martini
San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board

BAY AREA AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT*

Special District--Tax Levying Power

939 Ellis St., San Francisco, CA 94109--Phone 771-6000

Membership is all of seven Bay Area counties and portions of Solano and Sonoma --5600 square miles.

Established 1955, by State Legislature to study air contaminants and control air pollution by enacting and enforcing regulations.

Financed by property tax.

Board of Directors are appointed, two from each county:**one a supervisor from the local Board (four-year term), one a mayor or councilman selected by the county's council of mayors (two-year term). Directors receive \$50 per meeting, not to exceed \$1200 per year. Officers are elected in July.

Chairman, Alfred J. Nelder, San Francisco
Peter R. Arrigoni, Marin
Thomas H. Bates, Alameda
Sam Chapman, Napa
Stewart Cullen, Marin
Jean Fassler, San Mateo
Chester Hillyard, Solano
James P. Kenny, Contra Costa
Ruth Koehler, Santa Clara
James Lemos, Solano
Marguerite Leipzig, San Mateo
Daniel A. McCorquodale, Santa Clara
Dick Oliver, Alameda
Gerald M. Poznanovich, Sonoma
Robert Scofield, Solano
Lowell Smith, Napa
Peter Tamaras, San Francisco
Robert Theiller, Sonoma

* Information on regional agencies was taken from the League of Women Voters' 1975 Directory of San Francisco Bay Area Decision Makers.

** The composition of the District will change in January, 1977. Total number of directors will remain 18, but more populated counties will gain representatives at the expense of the smaller counties.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

State Commission of regional character

Hotel Claremont, Berkeley, CA 94705--Phone 849-3223

Membership is the nine Bay Area Counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma.

Established November 1970. AB 363: to adopt a comprehensive regional transportation plan by June 30, 1973; the plan to include highways, bridges, mass transit, and harbors and airports as they relate to surface transportation; also to include a ten-year estimate of future needs of transportation; a financial plan for the proposed system; and to review grant applications containing transportation elements.

Financed by state and federal funds: State, California State Dept. of Transportation, and 3% from each of the nine counties' sales tax funds for administration of the Bay Area's Transportation Funds and for transportation planning; Federal, primarily from Urban Mass Transportation Administration, and also Federal Aviation and Federal Highway administrations.

Commissioners appointed, four-year terms: 16 members, plus three non-voting; from the five most populous counties one member is appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and one by the Mayors' selection committee; in the four smaller counties, the Board of Supervisors appoints one from a list from the Mayors' selection committee; one appointment each from ABAG, BCDC, HUD, and State and Federal Departments of Transportation.

Chairman, Louise P. Giersch, Antioch, Association of Bay Area Governments
John C. Beckett, Palo Alto, Santa Clara County
Joseph P. Bort, Berkeley, Supervisor, Alameda County
John D. Crowley, San Francisco, San Francisco Mayor
John F. Cunningham, Vallejo, Solano County
Donald F. Dillon, Fremont, Alameda County-Cities
Lawrence H. Dunn, San Francisco, U.S. Dept. of Transportation & Federal Highway Administration

Greta Ericson, St. Helena, Napa County
A. W. Gatov, Kentfield, Marin County
Joseph C. Houghteling, San Francisco, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

Quentin Kopp, San Francisco, San Francisco-City and County
Richard LaPointe, Concord, Contra Costa County-Cities
William R. Lawson, Menlo Park, San Mateo County-Cities
William R. Lucius, Healdsburg, Sonoma County
James E. Moriarty, Martinez, Contra Costa County
William H. Royer, Redwood City, San Mateo County
James Self, San Jose, Santa Clara County-Cities

GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE, HIGHWAY,
and TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

Special District--Non-Taxing

Box 9000, Presidio Station, San Francisco, CA 94129--Phone 921-5858

Area of membership includes the Counties of San Francisco, Marin, Sonoma, Del Norte, and portions of Mendocino and Napa.

Established 1923, State Bridge and Highway District Act, part 3 Division 16, Streets and Highway Code: to operate and maintain a toll bridge; 1969 legislation changed the District's name and added the duty of providing balanced transportation in the Golden Gate Corridor by authorizing the District to engage in all modes of transportation.

Financed by operating revenues, interest, and subsidies.

Board of Directors, 18 members: 17 appointed by the respective Boards of Supervisors, and one by San Francisco's Mayor; San Francisco appoints four elected officials, four at-large; Marin and Sonoma each appoint one elected county official, one elected municipal official, and one member at-large; remaining three counties each have one representative at-large. Terms subject to reconfirmation in January every two years. Compensation \$50 per meeting, with maximum \$3,600 per year.

DIRECTORS OF THE DISTRICT

Del Norte County
Edwin M. Fraser

Marin County
Peter R. Arrigoni
C. Paul Bettini
Gary T. Giacomini

Mendocino County
Carl Daubeneck

Napa County
Lowell Edington

City and County of San Francisco

Manuel Ceballos
Daniel F. Del Carlo
Robert E. Gonzales
Stephan C. Leonoudakis
John L. Molinari
William Moskovitz
Ronald Pelosi
Peter Tamaras
Dorothy von Beroldingen

Sonoma County
L. E. Castner
William K. Johnson
William R. Lucius

OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT

Peter Tamaras, *President*
B. Paul Bettini, *First Vice President*
John L. Molinari, *Second Vice President*
Dale W. Luehring, *General Manager*

Robert D. Tough, *Auditor--Controller*
David J. Miller, *Attorney*
Carney J. Campion, *Secretary*
Harry D. Reilich, *Engineer*

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

COUNTY (appointed by County Board of Supervisors)

Supervisor Warren N. Boggess,
Contra Costa County.

Supervisor Richard Brann,
Solano County.

Supervisor Sam Chapman,
Napa County.

Supervisor Fred F. Cooper,
Alameda County.

Supervisor George DeLong,

Supervisor Quentin L. Kopp,
San Francisco County.

Supervisor Thomas S. Price,
Marin County.

Supervisor Geraldine F. Steinberg,
Santa Clara County.

Supervisor John M. Ward,
San Mateo County.

CITIES (appointed by the Association of Bay Area Governments)

Councilman Albert Aramburu,
Tiburon.

Mayor James Ballentine,
Newark.

Supervisor Dianne Feinstein,
San Francisco.

Councilman Frank H. Ogawa,
Oakland.

In addition, two Legislators are appointed to meet with the Commission and take part in its work to the extent allowed by their position as Legislators. The Legislators appointed to the Commission are:

Senator Peter Behr

Assemblyman John J. Miller

SAN FRANCISCO BAY
CONSERVATION and DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
(BCDC)

State Commission of regional character

30 Van Ness Ave., Room 2110, San Francisco, CA 94102--Phone 557-3686

Area of interest is San Francisco Bay and the nine counties which surround it.

Established 1965, McAteer-Petris Act, and permanently continued by the 1969 Legislature: to follow the Bay Plan in regulating all filling and dredging of the Bay; has limited jurisdiction over developments within a 100-foot strip inland from the shore and any proposed filling of salt ponds or managed wetlands around the Bay.

Financed by state appropriation (General Fund).

The BCDC consists of 27 members who represent Federal, State, and local governments and the general public. The Commission membership is as follows:

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

Joseph C. Houghteling, *Chairman*,
appointed by the Governor.

Mrs. Ralph N. Jacobson,
Hillsborough, civic leader,
appointed by the Governor.

Mrs. Dean A. Watkins, *Vice Chairman*,
Portola Valley, civic leader,
appointed by the Governor.

Earl P. Mills,
appointed by the Speaker of the
Assembly.

Harry A. Bruno,
Oakland architect,
appointed by the Governor.

Ms. Elizabeth Osborn,
Fremont, civic leader,
appointed by the Senate Rules Committee.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

Paul DeFalco, Jr.
Regional Administrator,
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Col. Henry A. Flertzheim,
Chief, Construction-Operation Division,
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. Joseph D. Cuneo,
representing the San Francisco Bay
Regional Water Quality Control Board.

John Gratton,
representing the State Business and
Transportation Agency.

Donald L. Lollock
representing the State Resources Agency.

Sid McCausland,
representing the State Department of
Finance.

William F. Northrop,
representing the State Lands Commission.

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL
WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

1111 Jackson Street, Room 6040, Oakland, CA 94607--Phone 464-1255

Membership is the nine counties in the San Francisco Bay watershed: all of San Francisco and parts of the eight other counties.

Established 1949, Dickey Act, and 1969, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and related Water Code sections: to secure coordinated action of governmental and private agencies and individuals to protect the quality of the waters within the region for all beneficial uses.

Financed by State General Fund.

Board has nine members appointed by Governor; four-year term; travel expenses paid.

Chairman: Louis P. Martini, St. Helena; term expires 9/76.

Mrs. Joseph D. Cuneo, San Francisco; term expires 9/76.

Ms. Barbara Eastman, Los Altos Hills.

Raymond Gambonini, Petaluma; term expires 9/77.

Homer H. Hyde, Campbell; term expires 9/77.

Penn D. Keller, Martinez; term expires 9/76.

Louis J. Mariani, Sr., Cupertino; term expires 9/78.

C. Norman Peterson, Piedmont; term expires 9/78.

~~Ms. Jessie Smallwood~~ Richmond. *resigned*

ALAMEDA—CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT

Special District--Tax Levying Power

508 16th St., Oakland, CA 94612--Phone 654-7878

Area covers cities along San Francisco Bay in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, from City of San Pablo on north to Fremont on south. Routes also cross the Bay Bridge to the Transbay Transit Terminal in San Francisco.

Established 1956 under Part I, Div. 10, Public Utilities Code 24501-27509, for operation of a public transportation facility.

Financed by revenues from fares, property taxes, federal grants, and sales tax on gasoline.

Board of Directors elected, four-year staggered terms: seven members, five from wards, two at-large; compensation \$50 per meeting, not to exceed \$150 any calendar month.

President, Kimi Fujii, Hayward
Vice-President, John McDonnell, Oakland
Roy Nakadegawa, Berkeley
William E. Berk, Richmond
William J. Bettencourt, San Leandro
Chester C. McGuire, Jr., Berkeley, at-large
Ray Rinehart, Oakland, at-large

BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT (BART)

Special District--Tax Levying Power

800 Madison St., Oakland, CA 94607--Phone 465-4100

Membership covers Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco Counties; annexation provision. Established 1957, by State Legislature; to plan, build, and operate a rapid transit system in the Bay Area.

Finances by property tax, fares, sales tax, and federal grants.

Board of Directors elected: nine members, four-year terms, overlapping; compensation, \$50 per meeting and maximum of \$250 per month.

President, Elmer B. Cooper, San Francisco
Robert S. Allen, Livermore
Nello J. Bianco, Richmond
Harvey W. Glasser, M.D., Alameda
John Glenn, Fremont
Ella Hill Hutch, San Francisco
John H. Kirkwood, San Francisco
Arthur Shartsis,
Barclay Simpson,

Minorities/Regional Planners

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Public agencies need to hire minority planners.
2. Minority planners should ensure that equity issues are addressed in planning studies from a minority and low-income perspective.
3. Minority planners should be advocates of community needs.

PROBLEMS/ISSUES

1. There are very few minority planners in the Bay Area.
2. Minority planners need to seek decision-making positions. There are a handful of minority planning directors in the Bay Area.
3. Graduate planning schools admit a limited number of minority applicants.
4. Grants and financial aid for graduate planning students is diminishing.

SUMMARY

PANELISTS:

Cecelia Salazar Arroyo, Regional Planner
Association of Bay Area Governments

Maria Estrada, Graduate Planning Student

Curtis Henry, Consultant and Ph.D. Candidate

This panel discussion dealt with Minorities/Regional Planners.

Like the minority elected officials, there are very few minority planners in the Bay Area. A limited number are admitted into graduate planning schools and job opportunities in both the public and private sectors are scarce.

Minority planners must work twice as hard, wait twice as long for promotion, and are paid less than their white counterparts. They can be best described as: under represented, under utilized and under paid.

ABAG sponsors the Minorities in Planning and Management Internship Program which trains non-white graduate students for careers in the public sector. Program cosponsors are: U. C. Berkeley, Cal-State Hayward, San Jose State University and Stanford University.

Minority planners need to play a role which is distinct from their white peers. They need to relate to the minority community and should maintain those ties.

Minority planners can be advocate planners if they:

- o provide technical assistance to community groups
- o make information accessible to the minority community and identify important planning issues
- o make individual commitment to help others enter the planning field
- o remove the mystery from the planning process
- o expand the definition of community and think in terms of larger minority communities at the regional, state and national levels

Minority planners are needed to develop creative solutions to major urban problems which impact upon minority communities in the Bay Area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. United Way should include all charities in its fund raising campaign.
2. Title XX and its implications to United Way agencies should be examined.
3. Minority community members should call and visit United Way funded agencies to learn about the Bay Area's United Way.

PROBLEMS/ISSUES

1. It is generally believed that United Way deals mostly with corporations.
2. United Way is too selective about the charities permitted to participate as funded agencies.
3. United Way is a regional agency and its resource allocation makes a considerable impact on the community as a whole. What is being done for minority communities?

SUMMARY

PANELISTS:

Jack Ybarra, Transportation Consultant
Santa Clara County

David Aldape, Community Liaison
Metropolitan Transportation Commission

This panel discussion dealt with the United Way of the Bay Area.

Since the conference presentations were behind schedule, a limited discussion took place. Maria del Carmen Estrada, Executive Director of the East Bay Spanish Speaking Citizens Foundation and Steve Brooks, Associate Planning Director of United Way were originally scheduled to be the resource speakers. Because of a previous commitment, Steve Brooks left before the panel discussion started. Jack Ybarra and David Aldape volunteered to be last-minute replacements.

United Way is a voluntary organization of consumers, donors and participating agencies located in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo counties. Together they raise and allocate funds to support human-care services in those communities. The money raised through United Way campaigns is distributed to over 190 agencies for the following services:

Group Services	29%
Individual and Family Services	27%
Multi-Service Agencies	24%
Health Services	13%
Community Planning	7%

Ninety cents of every dollar collected is allocated to the agencies.

A-95 Review

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The A-95 review process should more adequately consider community needs and encourage community comments.
2. A mechanism should be created to provide minority input.
3. A-95 reviews should address civil rights issues since one of the purposes of A-95 is to "further the objectives of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964."

PROBLEMS/ISSUES

Panel discussion attendees expressed concern for the following:

1. The review process does not adequately consider community needs.
2. ABAG's notification list needs to be more comprehensive. In addition, community organizations may be concerned about more than one kind of proposal (housing and transportation and health, etc.)
3. An organization cannot tell enough from the initial notification to comment intelligently. This is one of the drawbacks of the early notification to ABAG.
4. ABAG's monthly newsletter should include all projects being considered.
5. A mechanism should be developed that would provide for minority input throughout the nine-county region.
6. What responsibility does ABAG have to assure that the federal funding agencies respect the A-95 review process?
7. How can we, or ABAG, train people who live in a community and have a local perspective to look at projects from a regional perspective?

SUMMARY

PANELISTS:

Lu de Silva, Administrative Officer
Association of Bay Area Governments

Alfred Parham, Executive Director
Southside Community Development Center

This panel discussion dealt with the A-95 review process of the Association of Bay Area Governments.

Lu de Silva began by stating that she was surprised and pleased to know that the community was aware of and interested in the A-95 review process. She explained that this process was the result of a Federal directive from the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, called the OMB Circular A-95. Since ABAG is the San Francisco Bay Area areawide clearinghouse, this means that

applicants applying for Federal funds under a wide range of Federal programs must notify ABAG. A brief description of the proposed project is sent to ABAG's clearinghouse. In turn, ABAG notifies those agencies that may be affected by the project or have an interest in commenting on such a project. ABAG's A-95 mailing list is composed primarily of local governments but the list has been expanded to include human rights commissions and community organizations.

Any comments received by ABAG from a commenting agency are forwarded to the applicant, who must respond to them in its final application to the funding agency. All projects are reviewed by ABAG's policy board on a monthly basis. Although ABAG does not have veto power over any project, the Federal funding agency cannot accept an application until ABAG and state clearinghouse sign-off are provided.

Al Parham expressed annoyance that so many persons had left before this important ABAG role was discussed. He raised several questions and then stated that there was no clear process in his opinion for the gathering of community input.

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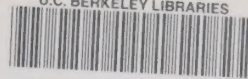
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